Mat-Su Monitor
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA COLLEGE
April 2011

Congressional Proposal to Cut Pell Grants

By Jake Magoon

In 1965, the Higher Education Act was signed into United States law by President Lyndon Johnson. Its goal, via the establishment of grants to low-income students, low-interest student loans, and increased funding to universities, was to enhance the access and feasibility of higher education to a far greater number of Americans than could have previously hoped to attend college. Stipulated by the Higher Education Act of 1965 was what was known as the "Basic Educational Opportunity Grant", what we know today as a Pell Grant. At the time of its establishment, the Pell Grant, awarded to low-income students, provided loan-free financial assistance which covered the vast majority of student costs. However, over time, federal funding did not continue to maintain this standard. By 1990, the Pell Grant covered 60% of a student's cost. By 2006, it covered half that amount at 30%.

Recently, the Pell Grant received additional funding from the federal government, raising the maximum award received to $5,500 through 2011. While many in the educational and industrial community hailed this act as an achievement for future generations and businesses alike, the Pell Grant that often makes the difference between whether or not a promising low-income student is able to attend college has come under attack. On February 22nd, the newly elected United States House of Representatives voted to cut federal funding for the Pell Grant by 15%, the largest single cut in its history. According to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, should these cuts be allowed to take place, some 61,000 fewer low-income students will be receiving Bachelor's degrees each year. These estimates, sadly, are charitable when considered in the context of rapidly rising tuition costs across the nation.

» See Pell Grants **Page 3**

The Written Word and Who We Are

By Keelan Mangus

Books have been the herald for new ideas and change for millennia, ever since writing first became common. It bears to reason, then, that as society continues to grow and change, so too shall books and their forms. Based upon current trends, Steven Johnson, in his article, How the E-Book Will Change the Way We Read and Write, presents to his readers a glimpse into one possible future for written communication: "Before too long, you'll be able to create a kind of shadow version of your entire library, including every book you've ever read -- as a child, as a teenager, as a college student, as an adult. Every word in that library will be searchable." It takes but a look into the many handheld electronic platforms on the market today to see that the book is indeed moving into digital format. Much as books once moved from chalk and stone, to pen and paper, books are now undergoing a revolutionary change from pen and paper to bytes. Every book ever written, so long as one legible copy exists, will be accessible online. The enormous boom that this will have on the availability of information is near impossible to imagine.

» See Book Changes **Page 4**

Local Artist Decorates Walls

By Hattie Schmidtkunz

Local artist Yuriy Somov's lifelong devotion to art is evident in his colorful and attractive works. Somov specializes in interior murals, and his work can be seen decorating the walls of several local businesses, homes, and restaurants such as Piccolino's, Bella Vista, and the Wolf Eye Clinic. His talents also extend to the realms of tile murals and plaster interior details. Friendly and engaging, I had the recent opportunity to meet the man behind the art as he worked on the mural at Wolf Eye Clinic.

» See Yuriy Somov **Page 2**

Yuriy Somov

Continued from cover

His talents also extend to the realms of tile murals and plaster interior details. Friendly and engaging, I had the recent opportunity to meet the man behind the art as he worked on the mural at Wolf Eye Clinic. The mural in question covers the walls in a corner of the waiting room setup especially for the kids, crafted to provide the feeling of welcome invitation to a play area. The piece cleverly features various animals interacting with glasses and eye doctors, also known as Optometrists. Somov has spent the last several weeks working diligently, making sure to get his work just right. He intends to work on another mural in the clinic, one that will show the historical development of Optometrists and their profession over the ages. Somov's art strikes that fine balance between being creative, and aesthetically pleasing, and is most certainly enjoyable to view. Yuriy Somov's work is available for appreciation on his website www.alaskaartonwalls.com.

Nothing Lasts Forever

By David Johnson

Saying nothing lasts forever is about as true as saying everything lasts forever. The truth is that most things just change over time. For example, skeptics have asked, if the wasteful choices made in our economies are contributing to giant garbage patches accumulating in the ocean, why are they not increasing in size? It is because the plastic is breaking down to very small pieces, thus occupying the same space, but more densely. It is also being eaten by fish and birds and sea turtles and moving with the weather, where it then returns as rain on our soil where it's eaten again.

We all are consumers and create trash and refuse, waste and pollution. Having an awareness of where things come from, how things are made, and what we are actually eating, can be helpful in reinventing how we live. We are facing serious global issues of climate change and food security, while increasing environmental catastrophes like the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the nuclear crisis in Japan are potentially irreversible. The long-term results of these devastating catastrophes on our oceans and world are unknown.

I have been asked to summarize the benefits of reduce, reuse, recycle, and to explain how we can solve some of these problems via growing more local food, learning about renewable energy, and how both can create green collar jobs to strengthen and build a more sustainable community.

Reducing our consumption of goods is smart, responsible, and good for Earth. Reducing the amount of waste entering the landfill will help to lengthen the life of the landfill, as well as reduce harmful emissions and water contaminates caused by the waste material breaking down. Reducing is conserving and limiting waste while still living comfortably.

Reusing anything or fixing something to make it last a little longer not only saves money, but also uses less energy and creates less waste when replacement is unnecessary.

Recycling saves the resources and the energy needed to mine, process, and ship the ore used to make a product. Recycling also saves additional significant energy when making a product from a recovered resource. It will take approximately 96% less energy to make an aluminum can from recycled aluminum than from ore.

In Alaska we produce less than 5% of our own food. If we could not import food, we would be out supplies within 5 days. That may seem unbelievable living in the Valley, but the Valley is a very unique and small area in the relative size and geological make-up of our great state. In other words, let's use our land area effectively, and farm where we can farm. Food scraps are terrific for compost piles, and so is yard waste. We can build gardens and promote even bigger farming opportunities here in the Valley. There are also good jobs in food production and manufacturing.

As fossil fuels diminish and become scarcer, nations will be forced to fight for these dwindling, essential resources. To reduce the tension, and speed a transition to alternative energy sources, we are learning new ways to create the electricity we need, the heat for our homes, and the fuel for our vehicles, all from renewable energy sources. In the mean time, we should all find ways to reduce our consumption to save money, conserve the resources, and protect our air and water quality. There are many opportunities emerging in the renewable energy field, and it is only in its infancy!

Mat-Su Carbon Crew is reducing, reusing, and recycling. We are growing more food and learning about renewable energy to help create green collar jobs and build healthy, safe, sustainable communities. We can create the jobs we need right here by growing the food we need, producing the energy we need, and by promoting the peace which will come when we are not fighting over resources.

Peace and Love,

David Johnson

President

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Pell Grants

Continued from cover

Some, however, make the argument that these cuts are necessary in light of the current fiscal deficit. Set to exceed $40 billion for the 2012 fiscal year, House Republicans propose cuts which would reduce Pell Grant awards for this upcoming fall semester by $5.7 billion. Although over a million low-income American students would lose their eligibility to receive Pell Grant assistance, some, like Republican Rep. Denny Rehberg, make the argument that reducing our current $1.5 trillion deficit by $5.7 billion is more than enough justification for this loss. In a recent radio interview, Rep. Rehberg stated, "So you can go to college on Pell Grants – maybe I should not be telling anybody this because it's turning out to be the welfare of the 21st century. You can go to school, collect your Pell Grants, get food stamps, low-income energy assistance, section 8 housing, and all of a sudden we find ourselves subsidizing people who don't have to graduate from college…Pell Grants open a lot of doors, but they rely on a solvent government. Getting our deficit under control and making sure Pell Grants can be sustainably funded is the only way we can guarantee they will still be around for the next generation."

While lately there has been much talk of deficits and seemingly incomprehensibly large numbers, it is important to achieve perspective in order to more effectively grasp the nuances of the situation. For example, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that extending the Bush tax cuts for the top 2% of income earners, those who would not be eligible to receive Pell Grant assistance, will contribute $400 billion dollars to the deficit. To add further perspective, the 2012 Budget request in anticipation of spending by the Department of Defense amounts to $707.5 billion dollars. Lastly, the non-partisan Congressional Research Service has estimated the 10-year revenue loss of extending the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts past 2010 at $3.5 trillion.

The original bill which contained the proposal to cut federal funding for Pell Grants was voted down in the Senate. However, the proposal still features in ongoing negotiations between Democrats and Republicans, negotiations which are taking place in order to prevent a shutdown of the federal government. While the future of the Pell Grant program may as yet be uncertain, we the people can surely breathe a sigh of relief in the knowledge that none of our elected congress people need deliberate with the burden of worrying about whether or not their children will be able to afford to go to college.

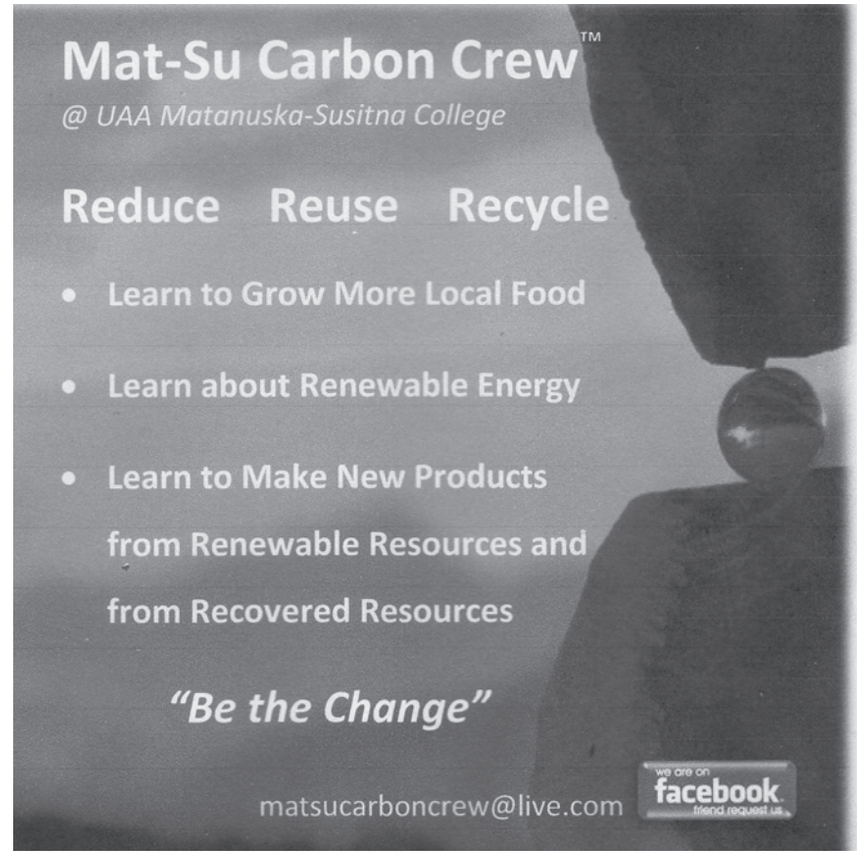
To Bus Or Not To Bus

By Dylan DeBusk

As students of Mat-Su College, and residents of the Matanuska valley, we face a great journey. For some of us, this journey is primarily figurative, though for the rest of us, it is literally a great journey to arrive to our place of learning. The UAA system forces its students to make several sacrifices in order to get a simple associates degree; we must either move into anchorage to finish our schooling, commute with our own vehicle back and forth to Mat-Su College from a potentially great distance, or we can take a bus.

Currently, we have two bus systems that transport numerous Alaskans to and from Anchorage several times a day. The Valley Mover, for example, currently runs ten routes a day, five days a week, with the Mat-Su Mascot Bus running twice a day, five days a week. While these services no doubt provide greatly needed, and greatly appreciated means of transportation for the community as a whole, what about the student population specifically? We are, in many ways, the future of the community. We buy more, drive more, and try more, and, given the lack of opportunity for individual involvement in fun, community activities, and the overall lack of "things to do" in our community, we ask ourselves what are we alive for? Perhaps it would be beneficial to the students who desire to travel back and forth to school, whilst saving money? Or, perhaps greater school spirit and comradery would be inspired via providing us, as we the students, the opportunity to go elsewhere into the community as a group, on our down time, should we so choose? Or, what about a simple bus system 3-5 times a day, transporting the public, students, and (oh here's an idea), the biggest employer in the state, Providence Hospital?

With a little networking, and a minimum of critical thinking skills, the answer appears to us, and is thankfully very simple. Therefore, our remaining question must be as to how we convince these companies that we would be a worthwhile investment of time and resources, enough to make the transportation of our students and faculty to and from UAA Anchorage, UAA Eagle River, and UAA Mat-Su College, worth their time? Thankfully, here too, we have a simple solution: Contact your local colleges and bus systems online and by phone or in person and request these services. The squeaky wheel gets heard.



An Unsung Villain

By Gene Kelly

As we become aware of unsung heroes, we are inspired to make the best of ourselves and our circumstances. The tale less often told, however, is of the opposite of the unsung hero: the unsung villain, and the damage they do to humanity throughout history. Knowing the story of one of the worst villains of the 20th century provides us with vital clues and context in the task of understanding much of the turmoil we see in the Middle East today.

Hajj Amin Al-Husseini was born to a wealthy Arab family in 1895. His clan owned extensive property south of Jerusalem. Al-Husseini served as an officer in the Ottoman Turk Army during WWI. His exact involvement in the Armenian Genocide, numbering from at least several hundred thousand to as many as 2 million, will probably never be fully understood, but his thorough awareness of it is indisputable.

After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire at the close of WWI, the British installed Al-Husseini as the Mufti of Jerusalem. Eventually, the British came to realize their mistake when it was proven that he was stirring up riots and instigating the murder of Jews. After a brief incarceration, he fled to Damascus, then under French control. He later surfaced in connection with Heinrich Himmler and Adolf Hitler. At the Nuremberg war crime trials, he was pinpointed as a pivotal influence in persuading the National Socialists to implement the final solution, resulting in the Holocaust. A week before the blitzkrieg in Poland, Adolf Hitler was quoted as asking, "Who now speaks of the Armenian elimination?" Over twenty years of silence on the subject helped to persuade Hitler and company that they could copy the conduct of the Turks with impunity.

Additional aspects of Al-Husseini's participation in the National Socialist cause included the recruiting and organizing of a largely Muslim Waffen-SS division in the Balkans to fight in Yugoslavia, and broadcasting Arabic language propaganda on shortwave radio out of Berlin. After WWII, AI-Husseini was not prosecuted for war crimes. Like many of those who fought for the cause of National Socialism, including former Gestapo members, he went to the Middle East. There, he settled into his role as uncle to Yassir Arafat, the founder of the terrorist entity, The Palestine Liberation Organization. Al-Husseini was familiar with fascists in the Muslim Brotherhood and the Baathist Party. He was also an indirect mentor to Saddam Hussein, who openly emulated Adolf Hitler.

Once Al-Husseini's background in genocide and fascist influences in the Baathist Party are recognized, it is becomes readily apparent as to why as many as a million people went missing in Iraq during the rule of Saddam Hussein. The U.N. has since revealed 27 mass graves, and recovered the remains of 300 thousand executed men, women, and children, all prior to the cessation of the investigation after having discovered but a fraction of the graves. It has not served the interests of the Western media to comment on genocide of Arabs or Kurds in Iraq. Instead, the practice has been to ignore Middle Eastern genocide, including the attempted gassing of the city of Amman, Jordan, with a truckload of poison gas, shipped to Jordan from Iraq via Syria. Much, but not all, of Western media has demonstrated its complacency and complicity in perpetuating the fascist hangover amongst Arab nations.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution on March 5th, stating that the Armenian Genocide was in fact genocide. The U.S. State Dept. disavowed that resolution in spite of Barack Obama twice assuring the Armenian community that he would support such a statement. When Turkish and Arabic communities are enabled to keep skeletons in their closets, unlike the Germans coming clean on the subject of genocide, it only serves to thwart progress towards stable government in the Middle East. Amin Al-Husseini provides one unfortunate common thread in understanding much of the current situation, and though a villain he may be, it can be hoped that he shall not remain unsung for much longer.

Book Changes

Continued from cover

Sadly, many great changes have their setbacks. Just as the ease of transportation and food have caused some to grow physically inept, so too could advances in the communications technology impact on society its own burden of ineptitude. Regardless of the nature of the advances, it is clear that it may yet produce profound and long lasting changes upon the way our society operates.

The changing of books has the potential to be one of the most frightening. While it is far simpler to buy books online than to go to the book store, it is also easier to be distracted while reading. In, The Techno-Flux Effect, Gary Rudman writes, "Each new medium requires teens to manage another input, increasing the fragmentation of brain bandwidth." Books have remained surprisingly untouched by the negatives of technological change through the ages, though this may be coming to an end. With more books available digitally via diverse electronic mediums, it does indeed look like books due for a big change. It is much as Steven Johnson said, "It will make it easier for us to buy books, but at the same time make it easier to stop reading them."

Perhaps one of the greatest changes since the advent of the automobile is approaching our society rapidly. Social networking is completely changing the face of human-on-human interactions. While communication was once either in person, vocal, or textual, social networking sites such as Facebook create a hodgepodge of all three. Users are able to post videos and pictures of themselves and their friends, comment on the content of their friends' pages, and far more. Unfortunately, while it does bring us a step closer, it does not completely replicate the experience of communicating in person. Worse yet, this new medium arrives with its own set of issues and problems. As Gary Rudman succinctly states, "Managing so much media makes being up-to-the-minute extraordinarily difficult and stressful, because the communication never stops." The cyber bullying of strangers has never been easier, and neither has misrepresentation of self. As Sherry Turkle, Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology at MIT deftly details, "...some people who gain fluency in expressing multiple aspects of self may find it harder to develop authentic selves."

Faced with the seemingly inevitable march of technological change, we as a society must accept that these changes are here to stay, but how they impact our lives is up to us. Do we wish to continue embracing greater technological advancement, whilst dealing with the psychological ramifications long after they happen?

Should we halt all progress, remaining at a painful stalemate, but preserving our minds as we imagine they should currently function?

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Book Changes

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Or, perhaps we will learn to accept and utilize this technological change in ways that complement our psyches, instead of facing these powerful new challenges emotionally unprepared. Only time will tell what comes next. Upon learning the answer, the only remaining question very well may be, "Did we make the right choice?"

Disaster Entertainment

By Jake Magoon

Despite humanity's seemingly limitless capacity for the application of new and creative means by which to do harm to itself, it is during those moments when the world seems the most unfair, when so many have lost everything, when disaster strikes, that humanity's finest and most redeeming qualities emerge. Such a statement, referring to mass acts of altruistic behavior during times of catastrophe, is now so widely accepted as to often go without further investigation. After all, we need only to pick up a newspaper or turn on the television to see daily reminders: New Orleans after hurricane Katrina, the recent earthquakes in Iran, Haiti and Japan, and the tsunamis of 2004 and 2011. Man made disasters, too, such as the terrorist attacks of September 11th, the ongoing struggle in Libya, and the crises in Darfur and Sudan, supposedly reveal the innate generosity of the human spirit. However, just below the surface of public discourse, major ethical questions emerge when two additional human traits are revealed: Altruistic Exhibitionism, and the proliferation of Disaster Entertainment

It is certainly quite reasonable, that, when confronted with disaster in our immediate proximity, it is within our interests as a member of the species, the local community, as well as an individual, to engage in courageous acts of altruistic behavior. Today, however, there exists a distinct class of people who, despite no physical connection to whichever ongoing disaster is the ratings winner of the week, would not dare to allow themselves to be denied their right to participate in the disaster experience, straight from the comfort of their living rooms. We call these people, "The Majority". It is certainly true that their participation in an ongoing disaster, in terms of donations, results in a direct and meaningful impact on the lives of the afflicted. Nonetheless, what is at question here is not that of actions taken, but rather of motives and of actions not taken. In our quest to answer these questions, we now consult world renowned philosopher and ethicist, Peter Singer. Peter Singer, the Australian born Princeton Professor of Bioethics, is for better and for worse, a controversial figure. Most of the controversy seems to have arisen from poor cross-communication between Singer and the public, however, keeping with the tradition of many great philosophers before him, some of the controversy has originated via the asking of questions many do not wish to be asked, and certainly not answered.

In order to illustrate what is meant by Altruistic Exhibitionism and Disaster Entertainment, I shall now (loosely) paraphrase a classic question posed by Singer: Imagine you are out for a relaxing stroll one day in the park before work, careful to avoid any uncertain terrain, as you are wearing your brand new $250 shoes. Unexpectedly, you run across a toddler drowning in a pond. Your initial inclination, thanks to social conditioning resulting in your conception of self as someone who would never allow a toddler to drown, is to rescue this helpless victim. Alas, you recall that you are wearing your new, expensive shoes. What choice would you make? Upon being asked this question, the near universal cry can be heard ringing out, "Forget the shoes! Save the child!" As a result, perhaps for even just a brief moment, we might convince ourselves we live up to our own standards. And yet, who today knows not of the plight of the children in the Third World?

The reality is that over 22,000 children around the world die daily, most from poverty related causes. Most of us are, to one degree or another, aware that there is a plight amongst the poor of the Third World, and have probably heard of at least one aid organization. Yet, upon sitting down and watching television after a long day, what is a typical reaction to the commercials for those same aid organizations that show us images of starving, poverty stricken children? Often, it is thinly veiled irritation directed at the organization for breaking the rule. The rule, of course, being that we pretend we are moral individuals, and they refrain from asking us to sacrifice. If, perhaps, we feel as though we could use a self-esteem boost, we may decide to purchase some via the aid organization. But, donate enough to result in genuine sacrifice? In slower internet, fewer television stations, or food that is less rich? The internal calculation made, admitted or not, is that we are content silently accepting the death of children we do not know, if it means we could perhaps be a bit more comfortable. And so, it would seem, we might choose to save the shoes after all.

Therefore, the relation here to Altruistic Exhibitionism and Disaster Entertainment, can be found in the recent international outpouring of grief directed at Japan. These moments, seemingly officially sanctioned, provide opportunity to be both audience and participant. In its topicality, we are provided an opportunity to experience cost-free redemption via agreeing with our colleagues that we are, in fact, the type of person who feels sympathy with the plight of the people on television, at least for a couple of days. This is Altruistic Exhibitionism: observation providing motivation to appear altruistic. Disaster Entertainment, then, is the major news networks giving us what our secret, internal, neutral curiosity desires via listening to ratings.

It is virtually beyond question that donations and volunteers save lives that would be lost without them, and make a true, essential, substantive difference during every stage of a disaster. However, in terms of our understanding of ourselves, perhaps we might benefit collectively from a little open discussion.

MATANUSKA
WOODWORKS

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Carpenter

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Athabascan Beadwork

Delores Sloan was born in Ft. Yukon, lived in Fairbanks and now resides in the Valley. She is well known statewide for her beaded baby belts, one of which is on permanent display at the Anchorage Airport. She has taught workshops statewide, outside and in Great Britain. Delores will teach a small project of your choice on moose hide such as key bob, ornament or pin. All materials will be provided.

52416 PER 09:00A-12:00P FSM 207
52417 PES 01:00P-04:00P FSM 207

Glass Glob Terra Cotta Pots

Karen Urroz, Valley stained glass artist and instructor at Mat-Su College. presents beginning level workshop. Learn decorative glass glob gluing on "one of a kind" terra cotta pots. Her dedicated student following over the last 20 years speaks highly of her accomplishments and teaching skills. Produce memorable art pieces with grouting and finishing techniques learned in this workshop.

Materials Fees: $15.00
52418 PET 09:00A-04:00P FSM 201

Social Media Marketing

Karen Whitworth, of Wasilla, is a local successful artist and marketing expert who will provide firsthand knowledge on how to promote art on line through a web site as well as social media. This class is for all who seek internet expertise in marketing.

52419 PEU 09:00A-12:00P FSM 107
52420 PEV 01:00P-04:00P FSM 107

Intermediate Charcoal Drawing

Joe Nedland, experienced Anchorage landscape and wildlife artist, will share his awe inspiring expertise in this intermediate skill level drawing class. Students will work with charcoal, preferably on easels. Materials list will be provided upon registration. One-day workshop $50 lunch provided.

52421 PEW 09:00A-04:00P SNOD 119

Get the Most Out of Digital

Kevin Smith highly skilled fine art photographer of Anchorage is a popular Percent for Art photo mural award winner. In this entry level class you will learn to get the most out of Digital Point and Shoot or Digital SLR. Bring your digital camera and your manual. You will shoot photos indoors and/or outdoors, (useful if continuing in afternoon class). Materials Fees: $10.00

52422 PEX 09:00A-12:00P FSM 103

Processing in Camera Raw

Kevin Smith, highly skilled fine art photography of Anchorage, is a popular Percent for Art photo mural award winner. This class will include Intermediate/ Advanced level instruction. Bring Raw images for manipulation. Bring Flash Drive or CD and Card Reader. Learn Manipulation in Camera Raw on PhotoShop5 computer software.

52423 PEY 01:00P-04:00P FSM 104

Register Now!

All workshops June 4 at Mat-Su College

For more workshop information go to www.matsu.alaska.edu
For registration help call 745-9746
(CEU credits available.)

Suzanne Bach
MSC Fine Arts Coordinator
745-9755 — sbach@matsu.alaska.edu

Saturday June 4 WORKSHOPS FOR EVERYONE! Beginners to Advanced

Larson One Day Painting Class
Dean Larson, nationally renown artist of San Francisco, presents a one day demo in the morning and students painting session in the afternoon, to work in oils, acrylics, water-soluble oils and alkyds, while following his masterful techniques. Materials list will be provided upon registration.
52398 PEB 09:00A-04:00P FSM 212

Secrets of Pointillism
Gail Niebrugge, 2011 Machetanz Art Festival's featured artist, who resides in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley but is known throughout the world for her use of pointillism, will demonstrate and explain her distinguished style and techniques in a special presentation for all levels. There will a wonderful display of her artwork during her PowerPoint presentation. Note: During the "Take-a-Break" all will be invited to view her art exhibit and meet our very talented featured artist."
52399 PEC 09:00A-12:00P SNOD 118
52400 PED 01:00P-04:00P SNOD 118

Interiors with Color
The Voice of Color, is a presentation by ASID (American Society of Interior Designers) Interior Designer and PPG (Pittsburg Paints) National Color Consultant, **Karolyn Spagnolo**, from Pennsylvania. Learn to make your home a showcase reflecting your own personality while using the latest in global color trends.
52401 PEE 09:00A-12:00P FSM 205
52402 PEF 01:00P-04:00P FSM 205

Intermediate Watercolor
Vladimir Zhikhartsev, Russian born and trained artist, has been a Fairbanks resident since 1996. Vladimir has 15 Gold Medals from Ice Art Championships around the globe, which he teaches in winter. As a professional plein-air artist and 2008 Rasmuson Fellowship winner, he teaches watercolor painting in summer months. This all day workshop is tailored for painters with some experience with watercolors. Materials list will be provided upon registration.
52403 PEG 09:00A-04:00P FSM 206

Doll Making
Shirley Novak, Master doll maker, will provide a complete demonstration on the steps of creating kiln- produced porcelain dolls. Students will paint head, hands, set eyes, and assemble dolls. Limited to ten registrants who may bring a daughter or other youth as part of a team, but must be at least eleven years old and accompanied by an adult. Materials Fee: $55.00
52404 PEH 09:00A-04:00P FSM 204

Draw Comic Strips for a Living
Robert Duckett, a freelance artist living in Anchorage, will offer novices an introduction to the elements of comic strips and cartooning. The emphasis will be on development of an original comic, from concept to completion. This is a fun opportunity to learn and laugh at the same time.
52405 PEI 09:00A-12:00P SNOD 103
52406 PEJ 01:00P-04:00P SNOD 103

Introduction to Pastel Wildlife
Judi Rideout, prestigious Valley artist whose work has appeared in national magazines, will teach methods in pastel for completion of a wildlife artwork on suede mat board. Materials list will be provided upon registration.
52407 PEK 09:00A-12:00P FSM 112A
52408 PEL 01:00P-04:00P FSM 112A

Sumi-e` Oriental Painting
Jean Shadrach, distinguished Anchorage artist and teacher has studied with Sumi-e` Masters from all over the world. She will offer a hands on workshop, using the basic Sumi (ink) and brush techniques. This art will be explained as useful for artists who work in watercolor, oils, acrylics and ceramics.
Materials Fee: $10.00
52409 PEM 09:00A-04:00P SNOD 117

Encaustic Painting
Sheary Clough Suiter, of Anchorage, is a mixed media artist whose unique imaginative style with encaustics, was awarded by a permanent collection purchase at the Anchorage Museum. She will share her expertise and provide an overview of the history and how to paint with tempered beeswax (encaustics), and demonstrate techniques such as collage, glazing, stencils, and monotypes. Afterwards attendees of the demonstrations will try brief hands-on experiments of their own.
Materials Fee: $5.00
52411 PEN 09:00A-12:00P FSM 208
52412 PEO 01:00P-04:00P FSM 208

Effortless Art Tees
Jen Brown, of Eagle River, known for her conceptual approach to fibers and fabrics, will guide the student to create a unique "one-of a kind" tee-shirt using traditional tie dying and shibori techniques. A variety of techniques will be explored, including a demo of transferring graphic printed images. Stamping and other surface techniques will also be demonstrated. Materials Fee: $20.00
52413 PEP 09:00A-12:00P FSM 202
52415 PEQ 01:00P-04:00P FSM 202

- Half day $25
- All day $50

- Guest Artist — Dean Larson — oil painter (San Francisco)
- Featured Artist — Gail Niebrugge — pointillism (Palmer)
- Interior Design — Karolyn Spagnolo, ASID (Pittsburgh)

Congratulations Mat-Su College 2011 Graduates

Occupational Endorsement Certificate

Architectural & Engineering Technology
Dustin I. Campbell-Hutchinson
- CAD For Building Construction

Computer Information & Office Systems
Megan R. Bruckner
- Office Foundations

Carla Ann Modrell
- Medical Office Support
- Office Foundations

Justin Andrew Reeder
- Office Foundations

Heather Ann Riech
- Office Foundations
- Bookkeeping Support
- Office Support

Refrigeration & Heating Technology
Timothy Justin Lee
- Commercial Refrigeration
- Commercial HVAC Systems
- Residential Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
- Residential Heating & Ventilation

Renewable Energy
Margaret L. Brawley
Adam Daniel Escobedo
Coley Carl Foster
Eric Matthew Hansen
Stephen Joseph Ratey
James L. Shaginoff
Beth Ann Stokes

Veterinary Assisting
Mary Ann Kahula
Debbie Jean Palmer
Aubrey Anne Robison
Matthew A. Wagner
Crystal Nicole Harder

Undergraduate Certificate
Reuben Jesse Sonnenberg
- Architectural Drafting
- Civil Drafting
- Mechanical & Electrical Drafting
- Structural Drafting

Scott E. Wilson
- Architectural Drafting
- Civil Drafting
- Mechanical & Electrical Drafting
- Structural Drafting

Associate of Arts
Jurden Young Ballard
Valerie C. Blocker
Heather R. Brown
Kimberly R. Butler
Charissa Cherry
Tracy Ann Corneliussen
David A. Craft
Eugena A. Decker
Nicole S. Dill
Courtney Marie Dossett
Melissa D. Drick
Hannah Sara Fox
Samantha Joanne Gardner
Brandee Lea Gresham
Travis Blake Howells
Tiffany Juliet Kemp
Megan Marie Kolendo
Kirsten G. Laulainen
Sara Beth Lehmer
Dawn Constance Leonard
Gregory John Lippmann
Bradley Scott Lucas
Wesley C. Milstead
Otto Kent Nelson
Kory A. Pickard
Christopher Saber Rathbun
Anita Marie Raubeson
Aubrey Anne Robison
Jeanette Lynn Rogers
Stephanie R. Rule
Geoffroi William Smits
Traci Anne Steele
Andrew William Swanson
Johanna Helene Zivotic

Associate of Applied Science

Accounting
Lisa Maria Barnes
Anila Beluli
Beate Couturier
Sumalee G. Cupps
Courtney Meaghan B Fenner
Heather Lynn Jackson
Katie Erin Lauruhn
Marnice L. Marshall
Terry J. McAnally
Tammy Ostrom
Michael Warren Taylor

Architectural & Engineering Technology
Aaron R. Burleson
Thomas R. Silvernail
Reuben Jesse Sonnenberg
Scott E. Wilson

Computer Information & Office Systems
Heather Ann Riech

Computer Systems Technology
Keith Norman Asche
Caleb Samuel Bare
Edward J. Franklin
Robert Dale Jeffries II
James Tyrus Lyday
Christopher William Motz
John Roffe
Joshua A. Smart
Jason Dwayne Warta

General Business
Colton Jacob Beemer
Beate Couturier
Zhanna Sergeyevna Demenko
Tanner Drew Dutcher

Human Services
Charles Bon
Karen Jane Bylo
Jamie Erin Durkop
Jennifer Saunders Fullmer
Billie Jo Hansen
Alexander S. Issoupov
Ruth Ann Jennings
Stephanie Noel Kincaid
Jessica Johnson Morrison
Patricia Lynn Riggs
Jaqueline Renee Sexton

Paramedical Technology
Aaron Michael Allison
Lisa A. Behrens
Ashley Cunnington
Teresa L. Hofer
Zachary K. Johnson
Benjamin Kirt Lewis
Breanna Krystal Love
Honnen Marie McLeod
Cindy Rose Pratt
Melia Lane Renfer
Matt E. Scherrer
Wes Preston Tibbetts
Rebecca F. Zacher

Refrigeration & Heating Technology
Stash Vaughn Bendall
Brenden C. Kent
Kristi Gale Knouse
Timothy Justin Lee
Pavel P Levchenko
Eric Justin Weatherby
Joe A. Weber

Small Business Administration
Rachael Renee Almon
Suellen Kilfoyle Appellof
Jake Alan Davies
Markie Allen Hirmer
Katrina Janine Keefe
Daniel Robert Klauka
Kimberly A. McClure

Other graduates participating in MSC Commencement

University of Alaska Southeast

Amy Jean Campbell
- Bachelor of Business Administration

Kristie May Parsons
- Masters of Education

University of Alaska Anchorage

Virginia Marie Grimes
- Bachelor of Arts / Elementary Education

Clarissa Gayle Viens
- Bachelor of Arts / Elementary Education

Trisha Dean Whisman
- Bachelor of Arts / Elementary Education

Kathleen Riley Yerbich
- Bachelor of Arts / Elementary Education

Kristine Bayne
- Bachelor of Human Services

Sherry Lee Dimmick
- Bachelor of Human Services

Connie L. Patrick-Harris
- Bachelor of Human Services

Charity M. Bare
- Bachelor of Science / Civil Engineering

Gary Michael Ellis
- Bachelor of Science / Civil Engineering

Ronald Eugene Bowlan
- Post Bachelor Certificate / Elementary Education

Student Author

By Raven Mustafoski

Robert Rootes, who attends Mat-Su Community College, has recently published his fifth book, Lycanthrope Moon.

"I like my characters to be realalistic. I cannot relate with a blue creature that spits fire," claims Rootes.

Rootes began writing his fifth book in high school. He was inspired by the 1984 film Hungary Like the Wolf and decided that this would be the inspiration needed to complete Lycanthrope Moon, whose original title was Lycanthrope.

Growing up in New York, Rootes relocated to Florida and was kicked out of school which resulted in relocating back to New York. He does not know when he decided to become a writer.

"It's kind of like art, you just know," states Rootes.

Throughout his books, Rootes shares character traits with other characters in his books. He makes sure however, to introduce someone and something new each time. He is inspired by using his friend's names to give the characters a sense of realness.

Lycanthrope Moon is the story of a teenage boy who discovers a ware wolf secret. Chris Walker, a teenage boy living in New York, gets a surprise when Courtney Harris moves in next door; a ware wolf?

"I do not know who I can parallel myself too," explains Rootes.

He uses a style of writing known as contemporary fiction; you write what you feel and it is reflective in the writing. He writes in a way that does not have an underling message to the reader.

Attention Mat-Su College

Flamingos have temporarily landed at Mat-Su College and taken up residence in Director Colberg's office! These are a very special breed- the Roaming Russian Relay Flamingos! They have traveled far & wide and plan on staying at Mat-Su College for a little while to help us raise some money for the American Cancer Society.

This is a fundraiser for the Mat-Su College Relay for Life team, which will be held May 20 & 21st at Wasilla High School. Donations and all proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society.

Members of the "Flamingo Flocking Squad" are presently moving the flamingos from office to office. For each donation faculty and staff can choose one of the following options:

1. Pay to have the flamingos take flight (the Relay for Life team will clean up the office)
2. Determine who the flamingos will visit next at MSC (pick the next person to be flocked)
3. Buy flamingo insurance for $25. (Protect yourself from future flocking!)

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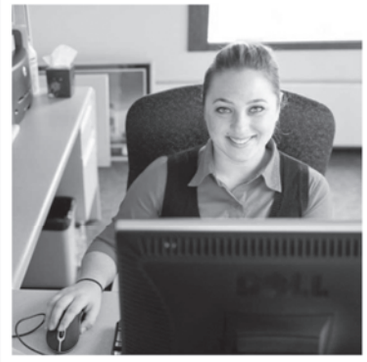

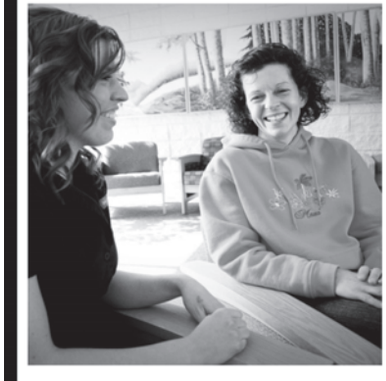

Are you looking for an exciting career opportunity?

The University of Alaska—Anchorage Mat-Su College offers competitive compensation combined with excellent health care, tuition, leave and retirement benefits.

Mat-Su College is one of the most desirable places to work in the Valley!

How to Apply:

Visit the Mat-Su College website:
http://matsu.alaska.edu/

Type in "Employment" on the MSC home page under the search option

Select the link for "UAKJobs.com"

UAKJobs.com is the university system electronic recruitment process that allows applicants to search for employment opportunities based on location, job type or job posting #

If you need assistance:

Please call Andrea Andrews with MSC Human Resource Services at (907) 745-9725

The University of Alaska is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Applicants needing reasonable accommodation to participate in the application and screening process should contact the Mat-Su College Human Resource Services Coordinator at (907) 745-9725

Color Choices

By Lars Singleton

When putting outfits together, certain color combos scream, "I have no idea what I'm doing!" For example, orange and black: as much as some of us wish it was Halloween every day, it's not. Consider, instead of black, grays and browns, especially in the darker ranges. Orange, overall, has a bad reputation for being a problematic color: wear too much, and you look like an inmate or a traffic cone. For those that remain uncommitted, both are bad looks. Trust me, I know. Orange can be such a pain in the bahookie that most people are convinced it's simply a bad color. If you are convinced of this, there is little I can do to change that. The fact that many people look bad in orange is one of those simple facts of life that we all must grow to accept.

Red and green are, of course, classic Christmas colors. Don't get me wrong, I love Christmas, just not people dressed like Christmas trees. There exist many options for the pairing of reds with greens without looking like Christmas, mainly using burgundies and brownish reds with greens. Red also mixes well with most colors, including some purples. When choosing a purple to pair with a red, choose ones that tend toward blue or black: the coolness of these tones helps off set the warmth of the red.

I have two theories for mixing bright colors: complementary colors, and the rainbow effect. As far as I know, in this application, I'm the only one to call them this. Complementary colors: colors that are near each other or directly opposite on the color wheel. The rainbow effect is fairly self explanatory: just throw as many colors together as possible. Rainbow effect is not the way to go, unless of course being confused with a clown is the goal. Complementary colors are the best way. Be sure to have a dark base to help ground the colors and use a multi colored pattern to achieve a very cohesive look. Warning: mixing of bright colors is a very casual look. Do no attempt to wear multiple bright colors to any formal or business function, unless said function is a clown convention.

Now we move on to the bit more advanced: tonal or monochromatic looks. They're very chic when done correctly, making them extremely difficult and not for the weak of heart. I haven't even tried this particular style. Some of the most common tonal color combos are grays, blacks, tans, reds, and blues. Tonal looks can easily date an outfit, and the wearer. The best outfits I've seen have mixtures of textures, and vary shades of the color greatly. Most outfits in a tonal style stick to a maximum of four shades. Example photos of these looks can be found online. Remember, color is a wonderful thing, use it wisely and it will be your friend, use it unwisely, and it can be your worst nightmare.

Restaurant Review

By Hattie Schmidtkunz

Recently opened, the Palmer Downtown Deli is an inviting new place to have lunch or coffee. Upon entering the deli, the customers are presented with a wide variety of menu options, including pizza, soup, sandwiches (bagel sandwiches, too!), wraps, salads, cakes, and more. Customers may also choose from a selection of teas and coffees. One can imagine how, on a chilly day, you could warm yourself by an attractive gas imitation fireplace, whilst sitting on a couch or soft chair. The deli's atmosphere is one of warmth, with comfortable soft lighting, attractive furniture, and pleasing background music. Large windows framed with Christmas lights offer a wonderful view of Matanuska Peak and Lazy Mountain. Additional Alaskan perspectives are presented to the customer via the art work located on the walls, produced by local artist Shane Lamb. The deli's downtown Palmer location makes for an ideal meeting place with friends or colleagues, or for having some quiet time with a book and a lovely cup of tea. The Palmer Downtown Deli also provides an additional convenience for the customer in via free Wi-Fi.

The Palmer Downtown Deli is open 7:00am -7:00pm, Monday through Saturday, and is closed on Sunday. They are located in the Downtown Palmer Plaza on Alaska Street.

Mat-Su Monitor would like to thank the Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman for all of their support. Call (907) 352-2250 to learn about home delivery.

Bronze Pour Field Trip

By Kristi Knouse

On November 3rd 2010, Suzanne Bach's Art Appreciation class took a trip to Arctic Fires Bronze foundry/ studio in Palmer on Outer Springer road, so they could witness the process of casting bronze and iron. The students gathered around the owner, Pat Garley, who demonstrated how he uses the equipment that he fabricated so one man could pour independently. Garley explained how the molds are made and how the metals are poured into them to prevent air bubbles from forming and damaging the completed images. His knowledge was backed by many years of experience and his delivery created intrigue and several inquiries from the students.

Near the end of the event the students were told of an annual, valley wide iron pour at the Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry, just outside of Wasilla toward Big Lake. It is known as the "Valley Arts Alliance ART ON FIRE Iron Pour Art Fest" and is held every third Saturday in June.

The outing was an exciting and informative experience that provided a real life encounter of one subject that is studied during the semester. Thank you to Ms. Bach for the stimulating educational opportunity.

Spring 2011 Dean's List Reception

Students who qualify for the MSC Dean's List will be honored at a reception on Thursday, May 26, 5:30 p.m. in FSM 204.

You are cordially invited to join in the celebration to support these distinguished students. Call for your seat reservation by May 20: 746-9339. We hope you can be a part of this special event.

Mat-Su College
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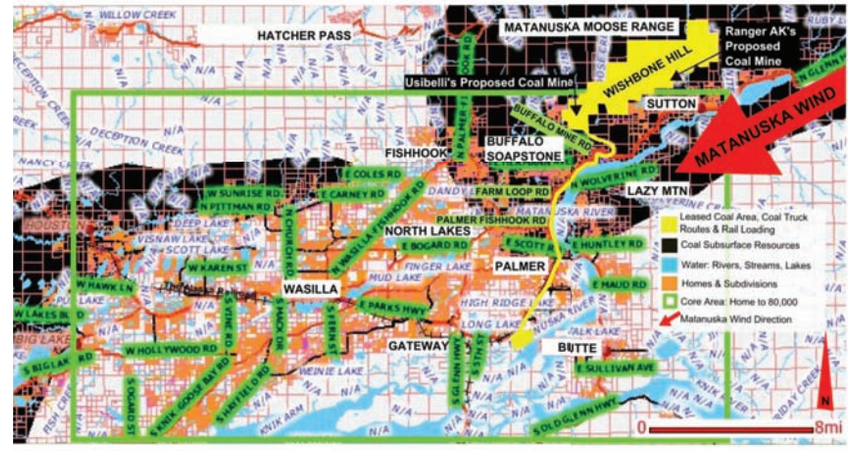
Are You Downwind from the (Proposed)

Wishbone Hill Coal Mine?



Just 15 miles downwind is 90% of the Valley's population—80,000 people. Comment on the DEC Air Permit by May 11th: http:matvalley.org

Contact Governor Parnell. Ask for a best interest finding on coal development in *your* Valley: **(907)465-3500**

Inform your friends and neighbors that coalmining does not belong in our Valley.

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